

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 03161 120533Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 AID-05 MMS-01 DEAE-00 ABF-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7173

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJ: OPRED - PERSONNEL STAFFING TO SUPPORT GOM NARCOTICS
ERADICATION PROGRAM

REF: STATE 77234

1. WE WELCOME THE SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED IN THE REFTEL AS
REGULARIZING TWO FUNCTIONS WHICH HAVE ALREADY DEMONSTRATED
THEIR IMPORTANCE TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NARCOTICS
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: THE NARCOTICS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OFFICER
AND THE AIR SYSTEMS ADVISOR. THE ADDITION OF THE CONTRACT
OFFICERS' REPRESENTATIVE FOR FOUR - SIX MONTHS SHOULD CERTAINLY
PROVE MOST HELPFUL IN PROVIDING DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO THE BELL
CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL DURING THE CRITICAL SETTLING-IN PERIOD;
AND, OF COURSE, THE SECRETARIAL POSITION IS NEEDED TO PREVENT
OVERLOAD OF OUR ALREADY STRAINED U.S. SECRETARIAL STAFF.

2. CONCERNING GOM REACTION TO THESE POSITIONS, WE HAVE ALREADY
HAD APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY INFORMALLY TO DESCRIBE THEM TO THE
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL. HE SEES THEM AS A LOGICAL AND DESIRABLE
DEVELOPMENT WHICH WILL HELP AVOID FUTURE DELAYS AND OTHER
PROBLEMS IN THE NARCOTICS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. THE EMBASSY SEES
NO NEED TO SEEK FORMAL GOM APPROVAL FOR THESE STATE DEPT
POSITIONS. (IN FACT IT WOULD BE NOXIOUS PRECEDENT; THEY SHOULD
BE CONSIDERED AS COMPLETELY DISTINCT FROM DEA POSITIONS).

THUS WE BELIEVE WE CAN CONSIDER THE DEPUTY AG'S INFORMAL REACTION

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 03161 120533Z

AS SUFFICIENT INDICATION OF GOM ACCEPTANCE AND EVEN ENCOURAGEMENT.

3. THE EMBASSY CAN ABSORB THE ADDED BURDEN ON ITS SHARED ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT CAPABILITIES. AT THE SAME TIME WE WISH TO POINT OUT THAT THIS STAFF INCREASE INTENSIFIES NEED FOR ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE STAFFING, AS OUTLINED IN THE CALDERHEAD/ACKERMAN LETTER OF MARCH 27, 1975.
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